

as the standard for immunization in the United States. Plans may not charge any payment for the immunizations or vaccines. And vaccines must be made available to children as soon as they are approved by the Advisory Committee.

Beginning for plan years in 2001, ERISA governed health plans must provide the benefit.

For plans that are negotiated as part of a collective bargaining agreement, the effective date is delayed until plan years following the termination date of the current underlying collective bargaining agreement.

The adoption of collectively bargained plan amendments made solely in order to comply with the new requirements will not affect the timing of the effective date under this special rule.

Why is federal legislation needed? The federal government gives this benefit to its own workers: it requires plans that contract with the Office of Personnel Management to provide immunizations for children as a covered benefit.

Many states have recognized the importance of covering vaccines. Twenty-four states, including Texas, have enacted laws to require state-regulated plans to provide vaccines.

How big is the problem? A March, 2000 William M. Mercer survey done for the non-profit Partnership for Prevention showed that nearly one in five employer-sponsored plans do not cover immunizations for infants and children.

Nearly one in four children in Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO) and Indemnity plans do not have coverage for immunizations.

The Comprehensive Insurance Coverage of Childhood Immunization Act of 2000 is endorsed by the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics and others.

It, and our Sense of the Congress resolution, will improve the health of millions of American children in a cost-effective manner.

For each dollar we spend on vaccines we save twenty-four dollars in future health costs. That's a good investment.

I urge my colleagues to support these two bills and I yield back the balance of my time.

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#### DENY PERMANENT MOST FAVORED NATION STATUS FOR CHINA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, in 3 weeks the Republican leadership will ask this body to vote for permanent most favored nation status trading privileges for the People's Republic of China. They tell us engagement with China, that more trade with China, that giving trade advantages to China, will make everything better. It all started back about a dozen years ago with Ronald Reagan, then President George Bush and President Bill Clinton, telling us that things would get better with China.

Eleven years ago the United States had a \$100 million trade deficit, with an "M," with Communist China, the People's Republic of China. Today that trade deficit has grown to \$70 billion,

that is billion with a "B," from \$100 million in 11 years to \$70 billion trade deficit with China.

We sell only \$15 billion worth of goods to China every year. We buy \$85 billion worth of goods from China. We sell more to Singapore, we sell more to Taiwan, we sell more to Belgium, than we do to China, because China's markets are closed to American products by and large. In fact, those products we sell to those countries, Belgium, Taiwan, Singapore, those are countries with about 1/50 the population of the People's Republic of China.

This process of engagement and giving them most favored nation status and giving China trade privileges simply has not worked. Other conditions have worsened. The trade deficit, as I said, went from \$100 million to \$70 billion in 11 years.

Other conditions, child labor has worsened, slave labor conditions in China have worsened. We continue to give them trade advantages. They answer by continuing their thumb in the eye of the values that we hold dear.

The Chinese communist party persecutes Christians and Buddhists and Muslims, not to mention their indigenous religious organizations such as the Falun Gong. The Chinese government winks at, sometimes even encourages, forced abortions, something that almost every country in the world, probably every country in the world, finds absolutely abhorrent.

Today, China continues its assault on Taiwan. A few years ago, I believe 3 years ago when Taiwan held the first free elections in Chinese history, the People's Republic of China sent missiles into the Straits of Taiwan to warn them against democracy. Today, as Taiwan begins a new era where their first native Taiwanese will be inaugurated president later this month, the Chinese again are threatening military maneuvers on the east coast of China.

If we let China in the World Trade Organization with full trading privileges, as the Republican leadership and the President here wants to do, what is to stop China from doing even more to Taiwan? They will not have any check on their behavior.

Perhaps the most insidious part of this whole debate is how American corporations have lined up on behalf of the Communist party dictatorship. The CEOs of the largest businesses in America, the most prominent corporations in America, are walking the halls of Congress today and all the House and Senate office buildings imploring Members of Congress to vote to support the People's Republic of China, to support most favored nation status trading privileges for China.

Wei Jing Sheng, a Chinese dissident, said the vanguard of the Chinese Communist Party revolution in the United States is America's most prominent and prestigious CEOs.

There are more corporate jets at National Airport today, leading up to the MFN vote, the most favored nation sta-

tus, trading privileges for China vote, than at any time during the year. Corporations understand. They tell us that China has 1.2 billion potential consumers, that America needs to sell to them. What they really mean to say is China has 1.2 billion workers, investments made from American companies, in China, people making 13 cents and 15 cents and 20 cents an hour, working 60 and 70 and 75 hours a week, selling products back to the United States, exploiting Chinese workers and costing American jobs.

Most favored nation status privilege is permanent. MTR for China is a bad idea. I ask this Congress to defeat it.

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#### COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF HON. ROGER F. WICKER, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Harold Lollar, Jr., District Director of the Honorable ROGER F. WICKER, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, April 27, 2000.

Hon. DENNIS J. HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a civil trial subpoena for testimony issued by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Mississippi.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

HAROLD LOLLAR, Jr.,  
District Director.

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#### COMMUNICATION FROM HON. SAM FARR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable SAM FARR, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, May 1, 2000.

Hon. DENNIS J. HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that the Custodian of Records in my office, the Office of Representative Sam Farr, has been served with a subpoena for production of documents issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, we will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

SAM FARR,  
Member of Congress.

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#### PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS: IS IT NECESSARY LEGISLATION?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). Under a previous order